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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

ATTACHMENT I

Forst Zinna, 15 Jan. 1949

Monthly Report of the Class in Administration I

The class was reduced to 15 men and one woman by the departure of the colleagues von Zersser and Lemcke from the D.V.A. who were transferred to Potsdam as ministerial directors, and by the passing of the colleagues Wittschiede, Wolff, and Kitzing into the special class. Of the colleagues who have been transferred to the special class, Wittschiede and Wolff have a great interest in the D.V.A. and also probably the qualifications for working here, while Kitzing, who seems less suited to such work, from vocational motives is no longer interested, after an initially very strong interest. As a result of the departure of the five colleagues the smaller circle of those whose participation in discussion is the most lively became essentially weakened but not eliminated.

Of the remaining ones the colleagues Blonkie, Habermann, Tulats, and Sonnet took the most lively interest in the discussion. Especially pleasing is it that the colleagues Lober, Beier, and Veigel, who earlier had scarcely any interest, are recently entering in more decisively. With regard to their capacity for work at the Academy, the colleagues Mayhak, Schiebel, and Prager are to be regarded with some doubts, in connection with which the latter gave to be sure a good, even if not a very independent report. In the interest of a stronger participation, and also of the still reluctant colleagues, in the discussion, the class has been arranged and grouped with an eye to its intelligence. Those who enter in more weakly when left to their own initiative are seated forward and are favored over the others with regard to their share in the discussion. The periphery is to be moved into focus. Besides that, we are trying to make the participation more general by means of allotting short reports, special direct questions and encouraging personally directed questions in return from the colleagues. The technical direction of the discussion has passed from colleague Michalk to colleague Sonnet in order to give the former the possibility of active attention and participation.

Ideologically no contrast has been established between the one non-SED colleague (Metzel) and the others. The afore-mentioned colleague entered the CDU without any ideological grounds but from reasons of obtaining a position and is besides being successfully introduced into cognizance of social relations through the work of the Academy and an old comrade who rooms with him. He is very grateful for this and seems capable of development, although he has not yet overcome a certain inferiority complex.

Uncertainties have arisen in the circle of students with regard to the character of the people's democracy, by virtue of the recent publications in the press which deviate from the opinions taught at the Academy. The desire for renewed representations on this question has been expressed from several sides. The discussion of equal rights for women was ideologically interesting. Notwithstanding basic agreement in this question, the old concept on the superior position of the husband again put in its appearance unconsciously among many colleagues on the occasion of the treatment of individual questions of practice.

A critical point was the return of the written practice-works whose average evaluation lay between "sufficient" and "satisfactory". Although false concepts and discords could arise among the students very easily this way, and the grades "sufficient" and "satisfactory" are considered in general too narrow, no real difficulty was encountered nor were any serious protests maintained and the contact was not troubled. A further difficulty, which it was nevertheless possible to overcome, existed: many who were not accepted in the special class felt themselves slighted through its formation.

By and large one can perceive that the end of the course draws near and the general wish to assure oneself of a good result is a stimulus. Special difficulties do not exist.

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